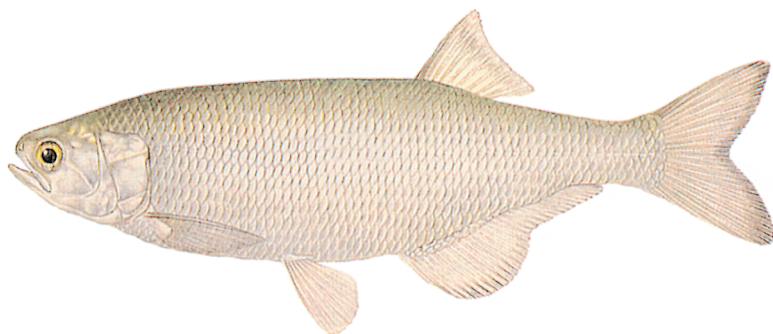


**MOONEYES (family Hiodontidae)**  
**Goldeye**

*Hiodon alosoides*



**Similar Species:** Mooneye, gizzard shad

**Identification:** Silvery compressed body, large golden eyes, teeth present, no sharp or pointed scales on belly, no dorsal fin ray projection like the gizzard shad, dorsal fin begins **opposite or behind** anal fin (unlike the mooneyes in which the dorsal fin begins **before** the anal fin).

In South Dakota, the goldeye is most commonly found in the Missouri River and its impoundments. Small goldeyes serve as prey fish for predators such as walleye and northern pike, but the adults are often caught by anglers on small minnows or small artificial lures. They can be quite sporting, but because they are bony they are not prized as table fare. (They are a popular food fish in Canada where they are smoked.) Goldeyes feed on a variety of organisms, from microscopic plankton to insects and fish. This fish rarely exceeds 2 pounds in South Dakota waters.

